IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

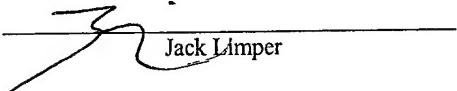|	
In re application of: Thippeswamy et al.	Attorney Docket No.: CISCP740
Application No.: Unknown	Examiner: Unknown
Filed: Unknown	Group: Unknown
Title: LOAD SHARING ON DOCSIS	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following amendments and remarks

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, at line 12, with the following paragraph.

In one embodiment of a per-session method of sharing traffic on multiple service flows, classifiers may be used in conjunction with a hashing function. By way of example, when a packet matches a known classifier, the packet may be sent on a service flow associated with the known classifier, and when the packet does not match a known classifier, a hashing function may be applied to the packet to identify an appropriate service flow. Using known classifiers, or classifiers which

are set by a network administrator when a subscriber unit is put into use, in conjunction with a hashing function may reduce the overhead associated with distributing packets.

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. Specifically, redundancy in the use of the words "may be" has been corrected.

In view of the above, the Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this preliminary amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-1652 (Order No. CISCP740).

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The paragraph beginning on page 16, at line 12, was replaced with the following.

In one embodiment of a per-session method of sharing traffic on multiple service flows, classifiers may be [may be] used in conjunction with a hashing function. By way of example, when a packet matches a known classifier, the packet may be sent on a service flow associated with the known classifier, and when the packet does not match a known classifier, a hashing function may be applied to the packet to identify an appropriate service flow. Using known classifiers, or classifiers which are set by a network administrator when a subscriber unit is put into use, in conjunction with a hashing function may reduce the overhead associated with distributing packets.